

as a lot of work with little benefit. If doctors begin using them with patients, however, the patients can get something out of them. So this bill will ask doctors to use PHRs to replace those dreaded clipboards when patients come to the office. If physicians do that, PHRs become more attractive. The patient can take ten minutes to put their information into a PHR, and use it with any doctor. If their doctors use them, the person will never have to fill out another clipboard again.

Even better, the PHR can be a communications channel between doctor and patient. The physician, or other entities like the person's health plan or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the American Heart Association, can send messages to the patient. For example, the patient can receive a reminder that she is due for a mammogram, or her prescription needs to be refilled. If physicians are willing, many PHRs can be used to allow e-consults and online scheduling as well.

If we can bring a critical mass of consumers into PHRs, it could create a strong consumer demand for health I.T. that could dramatically accelerate adoption. And polls show that consumers do want the capabilities that PHRs provide. For example, a recent Wall Street Journal poll found that approximately three-quarters of respondents said in each case that they would like to be able to email their doctor, to schedule appointments online, to receive test results electronically, and to receive electronic reminders. Unfortunately, fewer than ten percent can do any of those things right now.

Once physicians begin tapping into this pent-up demand by offering to use PHRs, I believe large numbers of patients will enroll. And conversely, as patients begin using PHRs, they will want their physicians to do so as well. Banks initially paid customers to use ATMs, but now they compete on how many ATMs they have and the functionality of their online banking offerings. Similarly, once health care consumers begin seeing the convenience and benefits of information technology, providers will want to be able to meet that demand. In this way, widespread use of PHRs could help give providers the incentive to make the investments in electronic medical records and other information technologies.

PHRs carry the potential for significant health and efficiency gains by changing patient behavior. Research shows that when patients receive reminders and other messages, they better comply with prescriptions, preventive care, and other health care recommendations. When that happens, patient health improves, and it also brings financial benefits to health plans, purchasers, and pharmaceutical companies. Everyone wins.

The Personalized Health Information Act would tap the value-added of PHRs by creating a public-private PHR Incentive Fund to pay physicians and other providers an incentive of at least \$2 for every patient with whom they use a PHR. The doctor simply needs to use the PHR in lieu of the clipboard, ensure that the patient's medications list is updated after the appointment, and use the PHR for communicating with the patient in appropriate circumstances. These requirements would be carried out by office staff and put minimal burden on doctors. Medicare would contribute \$2 to the Fund for each beneficiary enrolled, and private plans, drug and device manufacturers, and other private parties could do the same.

To qualify physicians for the payment, PHRs will need to meet certain minimum standards. They need to be entirely in the control of the individual, and will have to guarantee the portability of the data, so that the individual can take the information at any time. They'll have to meet interoperability standards and privacy and security standards. The PHR will also need to be able to send patient-specific messages in appropriate situations. Partners in the Fund would be able to have messages sent to patients with whom they have relationships via the PHRs, with strong safeguards to ensure that the messages are independently verified to be objective, accurate, and relevant to the patient. Absolutely no marketing or solicitations would be permitted. The individual must have the right to opt out of these messages, either entirely or from particular sources, at any time. In addition, the bill creates a Consumer Protection Board to ensure that these standards are met.

By paying incentives to physicians from a public-private fund, the Personalized Health Information Act captures the value that PHRs can create while tapping the strongest force in health care: the doctor-patient relationship.

This bill is not a silver bullet, Mr. Speaker, and will not solve all of the challenges inherent in moving from a 20th century pen-and-paper system to a digital system for the 21st century. But it can inexpensively and quickly give millions of consumers and physicians a stake in that transition.

Before I close, I want to acknowledge the efforts of Dr. Edward Fotsch, who has done much to develop the ideas underlying this bill and has helped pull together feedback and input from physicians, consumer groups, payers, pharmaceutical companies, and others. I also need to express a debt of gratitude—again—to former Speaker Newt Gingrich and David Merritt at the Center for Health Transformation, who have been unlikely but terrific allies in the quest for, as Speaker Gingrich would say, a 21st century intelligent health system.

There are too many Americans who are being let down by a health care system that is unable to consistently and efficiently deliver the world-class care that it is capable of. I hope that this legislation will bring us one step closer to the health care system we need and deserve.

#### PUGHTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pughtown Baptist Church as it celebrates its 150th anniversary. In 1856, citizens from Spring City, Pennsylvania gathered at the banks of the French Creek to baptize six men and women, thereby officially forming the Pughtown Baptist Church. From that day forward, the Church has been in its original building at 780 Pughtown Road, South Coventry Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The Church congregation is focused on preserving their history while expanding the community's knowledge of the Church to its neighbors. The Church holds an annual community

picnic where members spend a day of fellowship and, additionally, this year the congregation reached out to the needy by sending a mission group to Ocean Spring, Mississippi, an area hit hard by last year's Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Pughtown Baptist Church as it celebrates its 150th anniversary. I am sure that this active and energetic congregation will continue to bring hope, faith, and aid to both Chester County communities and other communities in need for generations to come.

#### RECOGNIZING LOUIS COSTANTINO, SR.

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued employee of the U.S. House of Representatives, Louis Costantino, Sr. This year marks his 26th year of service to the Capitol and the House of Representatives. Mr. Costantino was born in a house on New Jersey Avenue, just a couple of blocks from the Capitol and it has always been an integral part of his life. Growing up on Capitol Hill he has fond memories of playing in the halls of the Capitol as a child. There is no wonder that he grew up to be one of our Chamber's finest gate keepers.

For years he has taken up his post outside the main entrance to the chamber—"the same door the president comes in for his State of the Union address," he will quickly tell you. He first began his career with the House of Representatives in 1980 with the Office of the Doorkeeper and he currently works for the Sergeant at Arms. Mr. Costantino has the deepest respect and admiration for our institution and all of its Members. He truly loves his job and the people around him.

Mr. Costantino has been struggling with cancer for the last two years, and I am happy to report that he has won that struggle. His physician, Dr. Kressel, this week gave him the good news. This was what his wife Doris, his children Eydie, Lou and Amy, his first grandchild Bella and his friends everywhere had long waited for.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we congratulate Mr. Costantino on his 26 years of service to the House of Representatives and that we wish him continued good health.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK SUBLETT

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor a true hero and patriot who passed away on Wednesday evening, September 27th. A pioneer for African-Americans everywhere, Frank Sublett was one of 13 men who broke the Navy's color barrier in 1944. Dubbed the "Golden 13," these men bravely stood up in the face of racism in the Armed Forces and

entered Naval Training Station Great Lakes, Illinois. In February 1944, Frank became one of the first 13 African-American commissioned naval officers. The Golden 13 scored higher on standard tests than their white counterparts and went on to serve with distinction and fight the Nazis in the Atlantic and the Japanese in the Pacific. Frank Sublett continued to serve until the war ended in 1945.

When I first met Frank I was inspired by his story. And when I learned that he and other members of the World War II Black Navy Veterans were raising money to build a memorial honoring African-American Navy veterans from World War II, I wanted to help. I am saddened that Frank Sublett will not be standing next to me when we dedicate the memorial in North Chicago on Veterans Day. I hope that this monument to the courage of Frank and his comrades in arms will inspire young people to dedicate themselves to public service, whether in the military or as a civilian.

I want to offer my condolences to the Sublett family, especially to Frank's wife, Susan. Frank will be missed, but the memory of the Golden 13 will live on.

#### RECOGNIZING MARUMSCO HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Marumsc Hills Elementary School as it prepares to celebrate its 40th anniversary.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s the Woodbridge area was starting its suburban growth. Most of the land surrounding the school was developed by Cecil D. Hylton. His major projects included Marumsc Village (1954), Loch Lomond (1958), Westgate (1961), Marumsc Acres (1961), Marumsc Hills (1961), Marumsc Woods (1962), and Dale City (1965).

In June 1963, the citizens of Prince William County approved a bond proposal for \$7,000,000 for school construction. In April 1964, Cecil D. Hylton and his wife Irene deeded 12 acres in Section 2 of the Marumsc Hills subdivision to Prince William County Schools. Marumsc Hills Elementary School was constructed by the Whythe Construction Company in 1964 for a contract price of \$442,631.67.

The school was designed by architect Earl Bailey. This particular plan was called the Bailey plan and was in a barbell design with circular pods on either end of a rectangular section. Eight other schools in the county were constructed in the same design. The classrooms surrounded an open court with each room opening onto the court.

It was first occupied by pupils for a full day of school on November 25, 1964. The dedication ceremony was held a year later on December 14, 1965. Dedication speakers included Stuart Beville, the Superintendent of Prince William County Schools. The school address at that time was 1005 Page Street. In 1966 a six-room addition was constructed, which now houses first grade and kindergarten classrooms. In 1984, the pods were enclosed,

creating 5 new rooms. In 2005 another two-rooms were added to the previous addition.

The school originally housed 1st through 6th grade students. In 1966, the county school system made major changes, moving 6th graders to the middle school level. In 1973 kindergartners were added to the elementary schools. In the 1974–1975 school year, 720 students were enrolled here. That year there were 74 kindergartners and 193 fifth graders. Today Marumsc Hills Elementary School currently has 406 students.

Since its establishment in 1966, Marumsc Hills Elementary School has committed itself to lofty standards of academic and extra-curricular excellence. Over the years, as the Prince William area has expanded and diversified, Marumsc Hills Elementary School has followed the community's example.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank Marumsc Hills Elementary School faculty and staff for the immeasurable contributions they have made to the community by shaping today's youth and tomorrow's future. I congratulate the school on its successes over the last 40 years and I wish it more successful years in the future. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this outstanding and distinguished institution.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO EXPEDIA.COM

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Expedia.com, the world's number one online travel provider, for their business and service contributions to the tourism and travel industry.

Expedia delivers consumers everything they need for researching, planning, and purchasing a whole trip. The company provides direct access to one of the broadest selections of travel products and services through its North American Web site, localized versions throughout Europe, and extensive partnerships in Asia. Serving many different consumer segments—from families booking a summer vacation to individuals arranging a quick weekend getaway, Expedia provides travelers with the ability to research, plan, and book their comprehensive travel needs. Expedia-branded Web sites feature airline tickets, hotel reservations, car rental, cruises, and many other in-destination services from a broad selection of partners.

Expedia.com provides more than 25 million travelers per month the opportunity to research, plan and book their own travel accommodations. Travel opens our minds and hearts to different cultures, places and people. As Mark Twain wrote: "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it solely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

In this Nation, travel and tourism is vital to our health and well-being as a strong and vibrant economy. It is the 1st, 2nd or 3rd largest employer in 29 states and Washington, DC, thereby creating 7.3 million travel-generated jobs. October 23, 2006 marks the 10-year anniversary of Expedia.com, an innovative online

travel company which maintains significant operations centers in Las Vegas with over 300 employees; I congratulate Expedia.com as one of the world's leading online travel providers with 25 million visitors to its site monthly and for its efforts to broaden this exciting, valuable industry.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Expedia.com. Over the past decade, Expedia.com has made significant contributions to the travel and tourism industry, the economy of my state, and the overall travel experience.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL TANTILLO

#### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Michael Tantillo of Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Mr. Tantillo has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our Nation's Capitol. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Mr. Tantillo has displayed academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Michael Tantillo, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

#### SALUTING THE NATION'S TOP BLACK COLLEGE RADIO STA- TION: FISK UNIVERSITY'S WFSK- FM

#### HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a very special organization in my hometown of Nashville, WFSK-FM, the radio station of Fisk University. Fisk is recognized nationwide for its outstanding academic programs as well as the world-famous Fisk Jubilee Singers—a group we recently honored here in Congress with the introduction of a special Congressional Resolution. Now, Fisk is also celebrating another outstanding accomplishment. WFSK-FM was just named the Nation's top black college radio station in the annual awards from Black Press Magazine and the Historical Black Press Foundation.

WFSK-FM broadcasts from its home on the campus of Fisk, but it informs and entertains a growing audience throughout the Middle Tennessee area. On air since 1973, WFSK has long been recognized for its diverse and innovative programming. The current format reflects the diversity and interests of the greater Nashville area. Music programs showcase smooth jazz classics, reggae, Haitian, African and gospel, as well as vintage funk and soul recordings. Public affairs programming includes in-depth news reporting, talk shows